

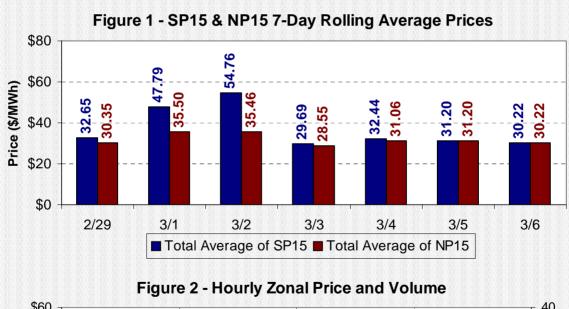
Electricity Oversight Board

Daily Report for Saturday, March 6, 2004

The average zonal price decreased by 3 percent to \$30.22/MWh down from \$31.2/MWh. Despite a 3-percent increased in the average natural gas price on Friday, and higher generation outage of ranged at about 11,200 MW, the lower zonal prices could be the result of:

- Lower weekend load. The average actual demand dropped by 2,200 MW from Friday.
- Moderate weather conditions. Temperatures increased for Southern California between 3 to 5 degrees while Northern California remained fairly unchanged and ranged in the mid-60s to high-60s.

The price spike between 10 p.m. and 11 p.m. could have occurred as a result of the winter peak load (evening hours) that concurs with the periods which generators with long-tem contracts typically ramp down. To balance the loads with resources in the real-time sometimes requires acceptance of all bids that could imply higher priced bids as well.







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